## **ABSTRACT**

A method for communication employs a plurality of gatekeepers and involves receiving at a first gatekeeper a request for information. If the information is not known by the first gatekeeper, a request is sent via a second gatekeeper to a third gatekeeper for the information. If the information is known by the third gatekeeper, it is returned to the first gatekeeper, illustratively via the second gatekeeper. The gatekeepers are at a single gatekeeper hierarchical level.